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STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

for the Year ended 31st December, 1968

H. R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.

M.O.H. A/Rpt. Stratfourth. 1968 (R.D.C)

Miss. Wright
Room E 203

16 FEB 1970
23 FEB 1970

TO THE CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, of the

STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for the Year ended 31st December 1968.

The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar General, was 4,000, being 10 fewer than in 1967.

The total number of births was 56, there being no deaths of children under one year of age, and no maternal deaths during the year under review.

Deaths totalled 51 (40 in 1967) giving a death rate of 13.13 which is higher than that for England and Wales at 11.9.

Principal causes of death were - 15 heart disease (19 in 1967) 9 from cancer (2 in 1967) 7 from vascular lesions of the nervous system (9 in 1967) and 5 from respiratory disease other than tuberculosis (2 in 1967), other circulatory diseases 2, as against 1 in 1967.

72 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year compared with 36 in 1967. The increase was mainly due to measles. Immunisation against measles was commenced during the year but was too late to avert the epidemic which occurred in early summer. Owing to a number of severe reactions the Ministry ordered the withdrawal of the vaccine produced by one of the manufacturers. This has severely curtailed the programme, and only school entrants who have not had measles are at present being offered the immunisation.

There were no notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis in the District during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, HOUSING AND WATER SUPPLY

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report which follows at the end of my report. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him and other members of his staff for their co-operation and help.

H.R. Morrison,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health — Dr. H.R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector — C.D. Hunter, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	97,630
Resident Population, mid-year estimate	...	4,000
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,506
Rateable Value as at 1st April 1968	...	207,845
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£840
Rate in £ levied at 1st April 1968	...	11/10

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of live births registered during the year was 56 (Birth Rate 14.00) as against 61 in 1967 (16.41) The Birth Rate comparisons show that the rate for the District is lower than that for the rest of England and Wales (16.9)

Birth Rate Comparisons

Live births — per 1,000 population, as adjusted by Comparability Factor.

Still births — per 1,000 total live and still births

	Live Births	Still Births
1967 Startforth Rural District	16.41	16.00
1968 Startforth Rural District	14.0	17.54
1968 England and Wales	16.9	14.3

Analysis of Births		1967		1968	
Live Births		M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	39	20	28	25
Illegitmate	...	1	1	1	2
		40	21	29	27

Illegitmate Live Births = 5.35

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 00.00
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births = 00.00
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) = 00.00
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) = 00.00
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) = 17.54

Still Births

	1967		1968	
	M	F	M	F
Legitimate ...	-	-	-	1
Illegitimate ...	1	-	-	-
	1	-	-	1

DEATHS

Maternal Mortality & Infantile Mortality

No maternal or infant deaths were registered in the District during the year.

Infantile Mortality Comparisons per 1,000 Live Births

Startforth Rural District 1967	...	33.C
Startforth Rural District 1968	...	00.00
England and Wales 1968	...	18.0

Deaths from all Causes

During 1968 there were 51 deaths from all causes registered in the District, as against 40 in 1967. The death rate (13.13) being higher than that for England and Wales (11.9).

Death Rate Comparisons - Per 1,000 Population as Adjusted by Comparability Factor

Startforth Rural District 1967	...	10.2
Startforth Rural District 1968	...	13.13
England and Wales 1968	...	11.9

Causes of all Deaths - 1968 - Compared with 1967

	1967		1968	
	M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	-	-	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms etc.	-	-	3	2
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	-	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of the Nervous System, etc.	-	-	1	-
Ishaemic Heart Disease	11	5	9	5
Other forms of Heart Disease	1	2	-	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	4	5	1	6
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	1	1	1
Pneumonia	2	-	-	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	-	2	-
Congential Malformations	-	1	-	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases	1	2	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases, Genito Urinary System	-	-	3	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	3	3
All Other Accidents	1	-	-	1
Total All Causes	22	18	26	25

Number of Deaths from Seven Chief Causes, Rates & Comparisons With Previous Year

	Per 1,000 Population			
	1967		1968	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Cancer	2	0.49	9	2.25
Respiratory Disease	2	0.49	5	1.25
Heart Diseases	19	4.73	15	3.75
T.B. Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
T.B. Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	0.24	2	0.5
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	9	2.24	7.	1.75
	33	8.19	38	9.5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 72 cases of notifiable and/or infectious diseases during 1968, as against 36 in 1967.

Analysis of Infectious Diseases and Comparisons with Previous Year

		1967	1968
		No. of Cases	No. of Cases
Scarlet Fever	...	3	2
Measles	...	32	67
Whooping Cough	...	1	3
Dysentry	...	-	-
		36	72

Tuberculosis

No new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1968.

Deaths from Tuberculosis

No deaths from this disease were registered in the district in 1968 as in 1967.

Vaccination and Immunisation Against Smallpox, Diphtheria, and Pertussis, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis carried out During 1968

	1968 Vaccination	1968 Re-vaccination
Smallpox	58	22
	Primary	Booster
Diphtheria	67	118
Poliomyelitis	64	47
Whooping Cough	61	48
Tetanus	70	114

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT 1946

Sections 22, 23, 24 and 25

Care of Mothers and Young Children, Domiciliary Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing.

The Infant Welfare Clinic held monthly at Barningham continued during the year. The District Medical Officer was in attendance as well as the District Nurse/Midwives.

The following number of visits paid to patients in the district by the Nurse Midwife during 1968 under the respective categories are compared with those for 1967:-

Category		1967	1968
Domiciliary Midwifery	...	425	333
Home Nursing	...	1,120	1,123
Health Visiting	...	1,645	1,534

Section 27 Ambulance Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council from the Ambulance Station which has a staff of one Driver-Foreman, one Shift Leader and six Driver-Attendants.

Section 28 - Prevention of Illness. Care and After-Care

The work of vaccination and immunisation, together with the advice spread by those working in the Public Health Service, Inspectors, Midwives, Maternity and Child Welfare Officers, Doctors and Nurses, must have a beneficial effect on the general health of the community

Meals on Wheels

A meals on wheels service is operated in the area and is organised by the W.V.S. 1,185 meals were served during 1968.

Section 29 - Domestic Home Help Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council and during 1968 13 cases received help,as compared with 17 in 1967, the analysis and comparison with 1967 being :-

		Cases		Hours	
Category		1967	1968	1967	1968
Domiciliary Midwifery	...	1	-	15	-
Chronic Sick	...	16	13	4,807	4,273
Sick Housewife	...	-	-	-	-
		17	13	4,822	4,273

CHIROPODY

The North Riding County Council employ a chiropodist to provide the service for aged people, expectant mothers, physically handicapped, and mentally disordered. Sessions are held at Bowes, Cotherstone and Romaldkirk as and when required.

The Public Health work of the District has been carried out as usual by Mr. C.D. Hunter, the Public Health Inspector, who has compiled the remainder of this report.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS

Total Number of Inspections for Nuisances only ..	63
Total Number of Nuisances Found	23
Number Abated by Informal Action	19
Number Abated by Statutory Action	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A satisfactory scavenging service continued to operate throughout the area during 1968. Only a small number of the most remote and inaccessible properties were not served. A weekly collection from the back door is provided for almost all premises, although a few of the farmsteads lying outside the main centres of population are visited less frequently by arrangement and some are required to bring their refuse container to the roadside.

All refuse is conveyed to one refuse tip which is situated near the village of Mickleton; unfortunately this is at one end of the district but the journeys have been so arranged as to minimise the dead mileage. So far as is possible tipping is carried out in accordance with Ministry of Health Recommendations.

One rear loading vehicle and one side loading vehicle are regularly used on the collection service together with four men and one old vehicle is kept available for emergency use. The annual cost of the service is £5,738. 0. 0d.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspections	No. on Register	No. of Inspections
Factories in which sections 1,2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	13	16
Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	8	12
Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	3	8

Cases in Which Defects Were Found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	-	-	-

Outworkers

One outworker is registered for the making, etc, of wearing apparel.

OFFICE SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACTS 1963

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered premises at end of year	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	-	2	2
Retail Shops	-	2	2
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	6	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	10	10

The number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises was 16

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following establishments are registered under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960.

Category	Number of Premises	Number complying with Regulation 16	Number to which Regulation 19 applies	Number complying with Regulation 19
Grocer and General Store	14	14	14	13
Cafes and Restaurants	3	3	3	3
Butchers Shops	1	1	1	1
Hotels and Inns	16	16	16	16
Licensed Clubs	3	3	3	3

Twelve of the above shop premises are registered to store ice cream for sale and all of these retail pre-packed ice cream only.

Three privately owned slaughterhouses are registered and 342 visits for meat inspection were made during the year. The tables overleaf show the details of the carcasses inspected during the year.

The total weight of meat condemned was 672 lbs, a very small proportion of the whole and a reflection of the high quality of the animals slaughtered.

DETAILS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND EXAMINED - 1968

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	471	-	371	1,660	157	-
Number Inspected	471	-	371	1,660	157	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	5	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	20	-	3	20	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	4.45%	-	2.15%	1.26%	-	-
Tuberculosis Only						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticerosis						
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CARAVAN SITES

The total number of licensed sites at the end of the year 1968 was 20. With two exceptions these sites are for very small numbers of caravans (less than five) and little difficulty is experienced in their control. In addition there are a small number of sites operating under exemption certificates from the Caravan Club.

The largest site which adjoins the village of Startforth, is for 200 caravans and has continued to operate satisfactorily during the year, the standard of cleanliness being high and the operators co-operative. A site for thirty caravans, and for which the licence has been extended to allow 60 is established at Mickleton and another site for 60 caravans is in course of development between the villages of Ovington and Winston.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council now possess satisfactory sewerage systems at Cotherstone, Mickleton, Barningham, Startforth, Romaldkirk, Bowes, Boldron and Ovington.

A scheme for the village of Hutton Magna is in course of preparation and it is hoped that this will be implemented during 1969. Only the very small communities are now left unsewered and any decision to proceed with these must clearly be influenced by financial consideration as the cost per property increases considerably with small schemes.

A septic tank emptying service operates for those properties not connected to main sewers and an annual cleansing is undertaken free of charge.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supplies throughout the area are under the control of the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board. No new schemes were implemented during 1968 but two schemes are under active consideration by the Board: one of these is to augment the supply to the Bowes/Boldron area and the other to provide a new supply to Brignall and an improved supply to Barningham.

A total of 43 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year; of these 14 were unsatisfactory, largely from private supplies. Advice as to remedial measures was offered in these latter cases.

In addition to the foregoing the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board carry out regular routine examinations of all the supplies under their control, both bacteriologically and chemically. No chemical analyses have been made on the samples taken by the Department and I am indebted to the Water Board's Chemist for the information given overleaf which represents the average figure of a number of chemical analyses of the public supplies. Figures given are expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated.

One thousand and fifty four houses are connected to the public mains in the area and a total of four hundred and fifty two are dependent on private supplies of varying sorts, primarily springs. An analysis of these figures is given in the second table overleaf.

HOUSING

The Council owns eighty-six houses and twenty-four bungalows.

At the present time the Council has no house building proposals. They are, however, negotiating for the acquisition of a number of older houses in three parts of the area with the intention of improving these to a satisfactory standard and adding them to the existing stock of Council dwellings.

During the year applications have been approved for both standard and discretionary grants. Fourteen standard grants were approved and nine discretionary grants. The total number of grants approved since the introduction of the schemes is 306. The average figure paid during the year for standard grants was £170. 15. 11d. and for discretionary grants £330. 4. 5d.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year a total of 12 treatments for the elimination of rats and mice was carried out using the principles laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food.

Analyses of Water Supplies

Averages for the year 1968

Results expressed in parts per million

	Lartington Mixed Final Water	Barnard Castle Urban District Reservoir Startforth Village	Hunderthwaite	Holwick	Bowes-Boldron	Barningham
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.023	0.021	0.020	0.042	0.027	0.039
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.076	0.083	0.048	0.113	0.081	0.106
Nitrite Nitrogen	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	<0.001	< 0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.54	< 0.25	0.38	< 0.25	<0.25	0.26
Oxygen abosrbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. at 27°C	2.6	0.6	0.4	4.6	0.3	3.2
Colour (Hazen)	26	5	< 5	43	<5	16
Turbidity as Silica	4	7	4	9	5	7
pH	7.5	7.3	7.0	7.6	7.2	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	3	9	29	8	37	6
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$	26	76	165	80	310	90
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCO_3$	26	76	165	80	222	90
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCO_3$	31	10	5	5	NIL	12
Total Hardness as $CaCO_3$	57	86	170	85	222	102
Calcium Hardness as $CaCO_3$	49	73	135	75	161	89
Magnesium Hardness as $CaCO_3$	8	13	35	10	61	13
Chlorides as Cl	13	10	11	9	15	12
Silicates as SiO_2	2.5	9	10	5	16	7
Iron as Fe	0.12	0.06	< 0.04	0.23	0.08	0.16
Potassium as K	0.7	1.1	2.2	0.4	19	0.9
Sodium as Na	4.1	6.4	7.9	6.6	54	7.8
Total Dissolved Solids (dried at 105°C)	96	126	213	129	368	152
Fluoride as F #	0.25	NIL	0.1	0.15	0.4	0.1
Conductivity at 20°C (micro-ohms)	133	183	330	177	600	219

Not average but result of most recent determination

PROPERTIES SUPPLIED WITH WATER

FROM PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLIES

Parish	Population (Estimated)	No. of Dwellings	No. of Dwellings With Mains Water	Population supplies with Mains Water (Estimated)
Barforth	102	34	10	27
Barningham	188	69	57	156
Boldron	99	40	25	68
Bowes	478	158	99	276
Brignall	98	23	2	5
Cotherstone	513	238	214	447
Egglestone Abbey	30	7	6	25
Gilmonby	52	19		52
Holwick	122	44	15	41
Hope	15	5		15
Hunderthwaite	132	49	13	36
Hutton Magna	102	38	23	60
Lartington	146	53	29	80
Lunedale	130	49		130
Mickleton	405	169	127	290
Ovington	145	51	51	145
Rokeby	97	38	9	24
Romaldkirk	154	83	79	140
Scargill	55	16		55
Startforth	896	276	260	852
Wycliffe-with-Thorpe	151	47	35	120
TOTAL	4,110	1,506	1,054	3,044